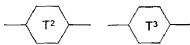




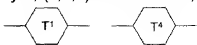
is a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of phenylene-1,4-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, naphthalene-2,6-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, cyclohexane-1,4-diyl, pyridine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F

r is 1

q, s are each zero or 1, their sum being 1



- 10 in (XVII), ,  is a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of phenylene-1,4-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, naphthalene-2,6-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, cyclohexane-1,4-diyl, pyridine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F, (1,3,4)-thiadiazole-2,5-diyl, indane-2,5-diyl



- is a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of phenylene-1,4-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, naphthalene-2,6-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F, cyclohexane-1,4-diyl, cyclohex-1-ene-1,4-diyl, bicyclo-
20 [2.2.2]octane-1,4-diyl, (1,3)-dioxane-2,5-diyl, pyridine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted or monosubstituted by F, (1,3,4)-thiadiazol-2,5-diyl, indane-2,5-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F in the aromatic ring, thiophene-2,5-diyl

25 q, s are each zero or 1; their sum being 0 or 1.

Particular preference is given to the following meanings:



- in (II), is pyridine-2,5-diyl, 2-fluoropyridine-3,6-diyl or pyrimidine-2,5-diyl


30 Z^1, Z^2 are both H or both F


R^{10}, R^{11} are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkoxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where one or two nonterminal $-CH_2-$ groups may be


replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F


with the proviso that only one of the radicals R^{10} , R^{11} can be hydrogen

5

in (III),  is a bivalent radical selected from the group consisting of pyridine-2,5-diyl, 2-fluoropyridine-3,6-diyl, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl,

-  is cyclohexane-1,4-diyl,
- 10 Z^1 , Z^2 are both H or both F,
 R^{10} , R^{11} are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F
- 15 with the proviso that only one of the radicals R^{10} , R^{11} can be hydrogen.


- In (IV),  is pyridine-2,5-diyl, 2-fluoropyridine-3,6-diyl, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl,
- 20 Z^1 , Z^2 , Z^3 , Z^4 are each H
 R^{10} , R^{11} are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where
- 25 one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F with the proviso that only one of the radicals R^{10} , R^{11} can be hydrogen.


- In (V),  is pyridine-2,5-diyl, 2-fluoropyridine-3,6-diyl, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl,
- 30 Z^1 , Z^2 , Z^3 , Z^4 are each H
 R^{10} , R^{11} are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where

one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F with the proviso that only one of the radicals R^{10} , R^{11} can be hydrogen.

- 5 In (VI),
 $\text{Z}^1, \text{Z}^2, \text{Z}^3, \text{Z}^4, \text{Z}^5, \text{Z}^6$ one element of this group is F or
 Z^1 and $\text{Z}^2 = \text{F}, \text{Z}^3, \text{Z}^4, \text{Z}^5, \text{Z}^6 = \text{H}$
 Z^3 and $\text{Z}^4 = \text{F}, \text{Z}^1, \text{Z}^2, \text{Z}^5, \text{Z}^6 = \text{H}$
 $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ are, independently of one another, identical or different and are
- 10 each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F with the proviso that only one of the radicals $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ can be hydrogen.

- 15 In (VII),
 Z^1 and Z^2 are both F; Z^3 and Z^4 are both H
 $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F with the proviso that only one of the radicals $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ can be hydrogen.
- 20

- 25 In (VIII),  is pyridine-2,5-diyl, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl

 is phenylene-1,4-diyl, unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted by F,

- p, q, s are each zero or 1; their sum being zero or 1
- 30 $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ are, independently of one another, identical or different and are each hydrogen or a straight-chain or branched alkyl or alkyloxy radical (with or without asymmetric carbon atoms) having 2 - 16 carbon atoms, where one or two nonterminal $-\text{CH}_2-$ groups may be replaced by $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{OC}(=\text{O})-$, $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$ and one or more H atoms may be replaced by F
- 35 with the proviso that only one of the radicals $\text{R}^{10}, \text{R}^{11}$ can be hydrogen.